

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus in that a sheet having an image formed on a first side thereof by an image forming portion is again transported to said 5 image forming portion so that an image may be formed on a second side of the sheet, said image forming apparatus comprising:

a sheet feeding portion for feeding a sheet to said image forming portion;

10 a re-transport path along which the sheet having the image formed on the first side thereof and again transported to said image forming portion passes;

registration means provided upstream of said 15 image forming portion for contacting with the sheet fed from said sheet feeding portion or the sheet having passed along said re-transport path, wherein the registration means is forming a loop in the sheet to thereby correct the skew feed of the sheet, and 20 thereafter transporting the sheet toward said image forming portion at predetermined timing; and

a loop forming space provided upstream of said registration means so as to form the loop,

wherein an entrance to said loop forming space 25 for the sheet having passed along said re-transport path is formed downstream of an entrance to said loop forming space for the sheet fed from said sheet

feeding portion.

2. An image forming apparatus according to
Claim 1, further comprising:

5 a fed sheet entry route provided between said
sheet feeding portion and said loop forming space for
causing the sheet from said sheet feeding portion to
enter said loop forming space; and

10 a re-transported sheet entry route provided
between said re-transport path and said loop forming
space for causing the sheet having passed along said
re-transport path to enter said loop forming space,
wherein an entrance of said re-transported
sheet entry route to said loop forming space is
15 formed downstream of an entrance of said fed sheet
entry route.

3. An image forming apparatus according to
Claim 1, wherein a guide member for guiding the sheet
20 entering said loop forming space from said re-
transported sheet entry route is provided at an
entrance of said re-transported sheet entry route to
said loop forming space.

25 4. An image forming apparatus according to
Claim 3, wherein the sheet entering said loop forming
space from the entrance of said re-transported sheet

entry route to said loop forming space by said guide member is made to abut against a side wall surface of said loop forming space which faces the entrance to said loop forming space at a predetermined angle.

5

5. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said guide member is formed by a flexible member so as to be flexed by being pressed by the sheet forming the loop after having entered 10 said loop forming space via said re-transported sheet entry route.

6. An image forming apparatus in that a sheet having an image formed on a first side thereof by an 15 image forming portion is again transported to said image forming portion so that an image may be formed on an second side of the sheet, said image forming apparatus comprising:

a sheet feeding portion having feeding rollers 20 and a sheet cassette which are disposed under the image forming portion;

registration rollers disposed between said sheet feeding portion and the image forming portion, wherein the registration rollers are forming a loop 25 in the sheet to thereby correct the skew feed of the sheet, and thereafter transporting the sheet toward said image forming portion at predetermined timing;

an entry route connecting said sheet feeding portion with the registration rollers;

a re-transport path along which the sheet having the image formed on the first side thereof and 5 again transported to said registration rollers passes;

a loop forming space provided upstream of the registration rollers;

wherein an entrance of the re-transport path to 10 the loop forming space is formed downstream of an entrance of the entry route to said loop forming space.

7. An image forming apparatus according to 15 Claim 6, wherein a guide member disposed at the entrance of said loop forming space from said re-transported path, wherein the sheet guided by said guide member is made to abut against a side wall surface of said loop forming space at a predetermined 20 angle.

8. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said guide member is formed by a flexible member so as to be flexed by being abutted 25 by the sheet forming the loop.